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KIDWELL McSWEEN MEETS DEATH IN A PISTOL DUEL

JOHN PRITCHETT BADLY INJURED

Battle Fought in Early Hours
of the Morning.

TRAGEDY SHOCKS COUNTY

Miss Emma McSween Had Run
Away From School at Nazareth,
Ky., and Had Met Pritchett in
Knoxville, and the Shooting
Followed on their Return Home.

Kidwell McSween, only son of Col. W. J. McSween was instantly killed and John Pritchett, flagman of the switching crew, located here, was seriously wounded in a pistol duel fought a few minutes before 4 o'clock Sunday morning. The tragedy which shocked the whole county was enacted at the stairway between the store of the Taylor Grocery company and the Smith Corner Drug Store, Pritchett shooting from the hall and McSween from the pavement. "Kid," as McSween was known used a 38 automatic steel jacket revolver, and three of his four shots hit Pritchett and his fourth cartridge hung fire. Pritchett wielded a 32 calibre automatic and eight of the nine shots fired hit McSween, a bullet which entered just above the heart and which was fired from a slight elevation on the steps, ranging downward and causing almost instant death. Pritchett also had a 25 automatic but its cartridges were not discharged. McSween's body fell across the gutter and Pritchett staggered out of the hallway and walked across the street to the depot and was put aboard fast train No. 35, then due, and rushed to the general hospital at Knoxville. An examination showed that Pritchett had some peculiar wounds. One ball entered his stomach and ranged upward passing through his body, coming out high on his back, near his neck. Another hit directly over his heart, struck a small pocket manual, glanced across his chest, below the skin, entering the right side and coming out through his back. The third wound was a flesh one in his left wrist.

Pritchett is a son of ex-sheriff Pritchett of Washington county and has been a resident of Newport over two years, having come here to accept a position as flagman. He paid considerable attention to Miss Emma McSween, but the young lad's parents objected. The young couple continued, in spite of protest, to see each other often and Pritchett had been warned, time and again, not to see her any more. No attention was given the warning and the meeting continued and finally, several weeks ago Col. McSween took his daughter to a college at Nazareth, Kentucky. She ran away from the institution last Thursday and went to the home of Dr. J. S. Smith, in Knoxville, Dr. Smith's wife being a relative, and there Pritchett met her Friday morning. Several Newport people saw Pritchett and Miss McSween together, Saturday morning and the information was received here that they were married.

T. H. Campbell went to Morristown on train No. 11, Saturday night and came back on train No. 102 and brought the information to the family that no wedding had taken place. The young couple were on the train and had planned to get off at that time, but were advised to go on through Newport. Pritchett went to the front of the train and slipped word to the local operator to get him some money and he would return on the Carolina Special. This fact was learn-

ed and Campbell boarded the Carolina Special at 9:05, but could not find Pritchett as he had been telegraphed to go up into the baggage car and there he received the money for which he had made the request. Campbell and the couple went to Knoxville on the Special and Miss Emma was persuaded to return home, with the former. Pritchett, so Campbell stated, said he would stay away from Newport until the affair had blown over, but when train No. 36 due here at 3:38 a. m., came in, Pritchett was aboard it. Kidwell McSween and W. M. Bible had come to the train to meet Miss Emma and Pritchett was not seen to get off, because he climbed over the draw head and swung down from the rear of the train and went to the stairway, where he apparently stood and watched No. 36 pull out, to see who met the girl.

He stood out on the pavement and McSween came down the street and the two faced each other at the stairway. The four eye-witnesses of the affair will not state who fired the first shots, but Pritchett stated immediately after he was shot that McSween had shot him twice before he fired. They were evidently close together with Pritchett standing up the steps when the shooting began as the first bullet which hit him entered the stomach and ranged upward, and McSween standing out in the opening on the pavement. McSween lived but a few minutes and the only remark he is known to have made was: "Well I guess you have got me." To Pritchett as the latter came out of the hallway.

Dr. Delozier arrived on the scene a few minutes after the shooting and declared that McSween was dead. The body was not molested for some little time, when it was taken to Willis and LaRue's undertaking establishment and prepared for burial.

Hundreds Gather at McSween Residence

Hundreds of sorrowing friends gathered at the McSween residence, Monday at 2 p. m., to pay their last respects to the dead. Rev. J. S. Black conducted the services, while the choir of the Presbyterian church rendered appropriate selections. Interment was made in the new cemetery.

"As White As Snow"

Immediately after he was shot, Pritchett realized the dangerous nature of his wounds. He was perfectly calm and when first asked if he was hurt said: "Yes, I am shot." Asked whereabouts, he said, "I don't know, in the hand." He walked over to the depot, one man holding him by the arm. He complained but little of pain and said: "I wrote my sister that I might be home today, and it looks as though I may." Implying that it was possible for him to be sent home in a coffin. Continuing, he said: "This is what I get for not being a coward, and I want to say now that the girl is just as white as snow, and I hope to live to be able to prove it."

Warrant Served on Pritchett at Hospital

Sheriff C. E. Dawson who accompanied John Pritchett to Knoxville last Sunday morning, received a warrant Monday, which he served on Pritchett, charging him with murder, and on Monday he summoned Deputy Sheriff Joe Cureton to come to Knoxville and remain with Pritchett, pending the result of his injuries.

Quick Wit Saves Life

Conductor McHarge's quick wit, saved John Pritchett hours of suffering; if not death, when he took charge of the situation immediately after the shooting, Sunday morning. In the brief period of 21 minutes, he had

Operator Caffey awakened and telephoned Sheriff Dawson, Dr. Delozier, Col. McSween and had arranged to have train No. 35 held here until Pritchett could be taken care of. At White Pine, the train was held and several telegrams sent off, and as a result. Doctors joined the train at Morristown and Jefferson City, and Dr. Carey Snoddy was awaiting the train at Knoxville with an ambulance when Pritchett arrived.

The incident demonstrated what remarkable changes can take place in a brief period of time. Pritchett arrived in Newport at 3:38. The duel took place two or three minutes later, and 21 minutes after he had first put his feet on Newport soil, he was speeding back toward Knoxville, with two ghastly wounds in his body and his adversary was dead on the street on the opposite side of the depot.

Fainted At Scene Of Sunday's Tragedy

Nel B. Mims a cousin of Kidwell McSween arrived at the scene of the tragedy as the body was being carried to the undertaking establishment. He fainted in front of Willis and LaRue's store, and fell heavily to the pavement and was assisted to the Mims hotel where he was confined to his bed, for several days it being feared that he had sustained a concussion of the brain in the fall.

SELLS SCORES POSTOFFICE COUP

Congressman-elect Names Successors to Several of His Political Enemies.

Johnson City, Tenn., March 15.—A sensation in political circles developed Saturday when it became known that Congressman Sam R. Sells had had Frank Britton postmaster at Jonesboro, Crawford Alexander, postmaster at Elizabethton, and John M. Fain, acting postmaster, at Bristol, removed. James S. Byrd has been named postmaster at Jonesboro, E. E. Hathaway succeeds Mr. Alexander at Elizabethton and Dr. A. J. Roller succeeds Mr. Fain at Bristol.

These are recess appointments and their commissions were signed before President Taft left for the South. The Postoffice Department approved of their bonds and the new appointees will take charge as soon as the transfer can be arranged.

It is not stated what the gentlemen were removed for, but it is alleged political activity brought about the changes.

Ex-postmaster Britton is the father-in-law of Albert L. Shipley, Republican Congressional Chairman of the First District, Shipley had constantly turned the cold shoulder to Sells and opposed him in all of his aspirations. Britton was a personal friend of the late Congressman Brownlow and a bitter opponent of Sells. Crawford Alexander led the fight against Sells in Carter County last November. Both Mr. Byrd and Mr. Hathaway were strong Sells supporters.

In having Dr. Roller appointed postmaster at Bristol Congressman Sells did something that the late Congressman Brownlow didn't succeed in doing, viz., name a Tennesseean to take charge of an office in Tennessee. It will be recalled that President Taft had sent for the Senate the name of Gaynard Goodall to be postmaster at Bristol. Goodall is a Virginian and Representative Slep of the Ninth Virginia District was responsible for his appointment. Senators Frazier and Taylor of Tennessee both objected

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AGAINST LAW TO EXPECTORATE

Spitting Ordinance is Passed
by the Aldermen

MAXIMUM PENALTY \$5.00

The Board Passed the Ordinance Without Discussion—Ladies of the City Had Protested Because of Soiling of Skirts.

The Board of Aldermen has passed an anti-spitting ordinance and thenceforth, any person found guilty of having expectorated upon the sidewalks of Newport, will be subject to a fine of from \$2 to \$5.

The ordinance in question was passed at a special meeting which was held Friday night, on second reading and with the publication of same it becomes a law and it will be up to the town officials to see that this law is enforced. During the past few months there has been considerable discussion about the filthy condition of the sidewalks of the town and the ladies of the town appealed to the Board of Aldermen for some relief, claiming that they were soiling their skirts whenever they were compelled to pass down the main thoroughfare of the city.

Alderman Early introduced a bill prohibiting spitting during the term of the last board, but after being passed on its caption, twice, it fell by the wayside and was not resurrected until the Woman's Improvement association became active and then interest was suddenly aroused and the bill was put through in two special meetings, and it will now be up to the men to be a little careful and avoid the payment of the fines.

At Friday's meeting a petition was presented to the board of Aldermen from the Woman's Improvement Club, asking the Board of Aldermen to assist them in a clean-up week, the first week in April and the board did not hesitate and will do their part toward making the week a success.

ODD FELLOWS HAVE RALLY

Charles E. Watson, Grand Master
Pays Visit to Lodges of
the County.

Charles E. Watson, Grand Master of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Tennessee, visited the lodges of Cocke county last Saturday night. Every lodge in the county was well represented, the meeting being held in the courthouse.

Representative Parrott introduced the guest of the evening and the Grand Master made a very pleasing and happy talk on Odd Fellowship, entertaining his audience for an hour and a half or two hours. After the speaking, the committee on arrangements, served refreshments in the form of fruits and cigars.

Mr. Watson left early Sunday morning for Rutledge where a big gathering was scheduled for Sunday.

MILLINERY OPENING AT RUBLE'S STORE

The millinery opening at Ruble's today surpass any they have ever had before.

A varied assortment of the jaunty little turbans, together with the large hats and various other styles to select from will meet with immediate favor. Trimmings consists of flowers, ribbons, lace and the new butterfly feathers. The straws that are popular will be the hemp and milan.

A large assortment of the new shirt-waist hats will be seen, also pretty hats for the little folks.

VOTE ON WATER WORKS IN APRIL

Aldermen Pass Ordinance Fixing April 29 as Date

NO OPPOSITION SHOWN

The Election to be Hurried in Order That Work May be Started at Earliest Possible Date—Mass Meetings Will be Held.

The people of Newport will vote on the bond issue for water works, Saturday, April 29. The Board of Aldermen held three meetings during the past few days and the water works ordinance was hurried through for the purpose of getting it before the people as early as possible, in fact it is the desire of the board to have the engineers at work on the streets of the town by June 1.

There was absolutely no difference of opinion among the Board of Aldermen as to the passing of the ordinance and the only question under consideration was the date for the holding of the election, and it was finally decided to hold same on April 29, thus giving the people ample time to consider the proposition, and will enable the opening of the registration books, and the calling of an election by the commissioners.

It was announced that W. P. Bullock, the engineer of Kansas City would be here before the election and would hold mass meetings in order that the people would understand the great opportunity given them in the proposed system.

At one of the special meetings held to consider the water works question, the fee of \$75 which had been allowed Judge H. N. Cate for his services in connection with the passage of the enabling act, was disallowed as he did not go to Nashville in connection with the same, but the board decided to allow him reasonable compensation for the drafting of the acts.

WHITE BOYS UNLOAD ON LITTLE "NIGGERS"

Doc Hutchinson a well known colored man, appeared before the Mayor and Aldermen Monday in behalf of two small colored boys who were operating a store on Jones Hill. Doc explained that some little white boys ran a small store there for several months and some weeks ago sold out to the little "niggers," and that when the new owners had taken charge they were told that the corporation authorities were after a license from them, and they were closed up. Doc explained that the stock had cost 83 cents, and the whole affair was the result of the children's effort to raise a little money for their Sunday school, and the board did not insist on a license providing that the stock of goods was not increased to any great extent.

MAY ADD PULP MILL TO PLANT

New Owners of Pigeon River Lumber Company to take Charge Immediately.

Wm. Whitmer and Sons of Philadelphia, the new owners of the Pigeon River Lumber company's million dollar plant at Crestmont will assume charge at once, and it is predicted that the work will open up to the full capacity of the mill in the next few weeks.

It is currently reported that the company is planning to construct a pulp mill, and will use the refuse from their present mills in the operation of same.

It is also reported that this pulp mill will have some connection with the big mill at Canton, in an auxiliary capacity.

COMMITTEEMEN BANDY WORDS

Representative Parrott Wants a Full Investigation

DRUNKENNESS IS ALLEGED

Guards Are Said to Have Used Intoxicants and Representative Parrott Wants the Light Turned On.

Nashville, March 11.—Representative Parrott and Senator Parrish of the Penitentiary Investigating Committee enlivened matters at the session yesterday afternoon with a brief but rather stormy war of words over certain phases of the pending investigation. Mr. Parrott proposed that witnesses be called yesterday afternoon to begin an investigation of wholesale charges of drunkenness among guards and others at the institution. Mr. Parrish objected to such an investigation. He wanted to know what good would come if it, declaring that it would only mean the probable explosion of many of the men now employed at the prison. Words were banded back and forth more or less hotly and no decision was reached further than that the matter will not be taken up until the committee returns from its Eastern trip. No doubt the charges will then be thoroughly gone into.

In fact this is one of several charges, most of which are contained or hinted at in a letter handed the committee by a convict. This convict cites a number of alleged questionable transactions and gives the names of witnesses to be called to prove them, and he even outlines in brief the trend of the inquiry to be made.

UNSIGNED VOUCHERS

The examination yesterday afternoon of witnesses was for the purpose of settling the question of whether or not the unsigned vouchers of Warden Rice be allowed to his credit, and after a considerable evidence there was nothing for the committee to do but allow these as credits. The vouchers particularly discussed yesterday were those known as discharge tickets amounting to some \$8,272.79. Along with these are another set not heretofore mentioned in published accounts of the investigation amounting in round numbers to \$1,800. These last were also unsigned except by the clerk and were for railroad fare and allowances to certain discharged prisoners. The law provides that a ticket to the place from whence the convict was sent up, together with a sum of money be given him. The Warden has in many instances given the convict money to go to some other place than the one from whence he was convicted. For instance, a man sent up from Shelby County lived in Louisville, and instead of a ticket to Memphis he was given \$6 to go where he pleased. Such tickets together with the other class of unsigned vouchers gives a grand total of more than \$5,072.79, all of which the committee allowed Warden Rice.

There seemed no other course for the committee to take. Not one complaint came to them from a convict not receiving his money as claimed. While on the other hand there was direct evidence supported by much circumstantial evidence to show that each had received the amount specified. One fact developed in this connection was that formerly the convicts were allowed a pass book and each had entered weekly the amount placed to his credit for overtime work and from any other source. As to just when and why this was discontinued no satisfactory answer was given.

In connection with the unsigned vouchers an erroneous impression had been made on the committee, and through them to the public. This

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